

By His excellency Caesar Rodney, Esq; president, captain-general and commander in chief of the Delaware State a proclamation ... I do therefore by and with the advice of the privy-council appoint Thursday the sixth day of May next to be observed as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer ... Given under my hand and great-seal of said state at Dover the thirtieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one-thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine Caesar Rodney. Wilmington, Printed by James Adams [1779]

By His EXCELLENCY CÆSAR RODNEY, Esq; President, Captain-General and Commander in Chief of the DELAWARE STATE, A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the Honourable the Congress did on the twentieth Day of this instant *March* , Resolve, "That it be recommended to the several States to appoint the first *Thursday* in *May* next to be a Day of Fasting, Humiliation, and Prayer to Almighty GOD, that he will be pleased to avert those impending Calamities which we have but too well deserved: That he will grant us his Grace to repent of our Sins, and amend our Lives according to his holy Word: That he will continue that wonderful Protection which hath led us through the Paths of Danger and Distress: That he will be a Husband to the Widow, and a Father to the Fatherless Children, who weep over the Barbarities of a savage Enemy: That he will grant us Patience in Suffering, and Fortitude in Adversity: That he will inspire us with Humility, Moderation, and Gratitude in prosperous Circumstances: That he will give Wisdom to our Councils, Firmness to our Resolutions, and Victory to our Arms: That he will bless the Labours of the Husband-man, and pour forth Abundance, so that we may enjoy the Fruits of the Earth in due Season: That he will cause Union, Harmony, and mutual Confidence to prevail throughout these States: That he will bestow on our great Ally all those Blessings which may enable him to be gloriously instrumental in protecting the Rights of Mankind, and promoting the Happiness of his Subjects: That he will bountifully continue his paternal Care to the Commander in Chief, and the Officers and Soldiers of the United States: That he will grant the Blessings of Peace to all contending Nations, Freedom to those who are in Bondage, and Comfort to the Afflicted: That he will diffuse useful Knowledge, extend the Influence of true Religion, and give us that Peace of Mind which the World cannot give: That he will be our Shield in the Day of Battle, our Comfort in the Hour of Death, and our kind Parent and merciful Judge through Time and through Eternity".

I do therefore by and with the Advice of the Privy-Council appoint *Thursday* the sixth Day of *May* next to be observed as a Day of Fasting, Humiliation, and Prayer throughout this State. And I do most earnestly recommend it to the Inhabitants thereof to omit on that Day all Recreations unsuitable to



the Purpose of such Solemnity, to attend Places of Publick Worship, to humble themselves before Almighty GOD, implore his Protection and Blessings, "and that he would not permit our Land to become the Prey of the Spoiler, our Borders to be ravaged, or our Habitations destroyed."

GIVEN under my Hand and Great-Seal of said State at Dover the thirtieth Day of March, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-nine, and in the third Year of our Independence .

CÆSAR RODNEY .

By his Excellency's Command , James Booth , Secretary .

WILMINGTON , Printed by JAMES ADAMS.